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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE
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ARMED SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE #4

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
515 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE
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202-225-3031

March 7, 1972

Mr. Richard Helms
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Helms:

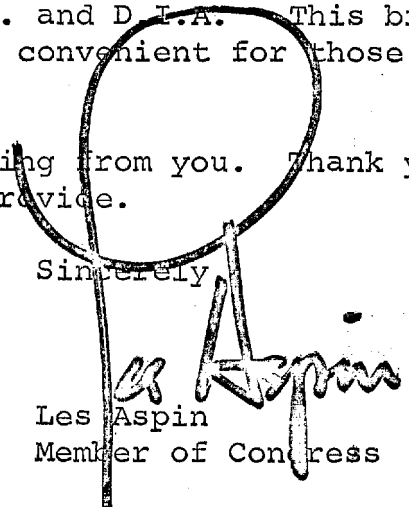
I am writing to you to request a briefing on Soviet Naval policy.

Specifically, the kinds of things I would like to know include: a comprehensive listing of the class and number of Soviet military ships; Soviet manpower devoted to the Navy; the amount of total Soviet defense expenditures annually since 1960 and the percentage of those expenditures devoted to Naval forces; the allocations of the shipbuilding portion of the Naval budget by category and class of vessel; and comparative costs of similar United States and Russian ships.

I would like to have a briefing which would use the expertise of both the C.I.A. and D.T.A. This briefing could be done at anytime which is convenient for those who would be participating.

I look forward to hearing from you. Thank you in advance for any help that you can provide.

Sincerely


Les Aspin
Member of Congress

:A/wbu

16 MAR 1972

Honorable Les Aspin
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Aspin:

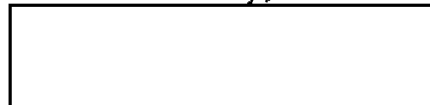
This is in response to your request during our telephone conversation on 9 March that I put in writing my explanation of our procedures regarding congressional briefings. As I commented at that time, it is my understanding that under Committee policy briefings of the type in question desired by individual members should be obtained through Committee channels or with the Chairman's approval.

Since our phone conversation I have mentioned your request to Chairman Hebert who recalls that Mr. Helms discussed Soviet naval matters during his last appearance before the Committee (on 8 February). The Chairman suggests that you might want to review the transcript of that testimony which is available to members in accordance with Committee procedures.

In view of the fact that your 7 March letter to Mr. Helms raises certain questions which were not discussed in Mr. Helms' testimony before the Committee, we are preparing some additional material for inclusion in the Committee records which we hope will be responsive to certain of your questions.

I hope that you will find this arrangement satisfactory.

Sincerely,



John M. Maury
Legislative Counsel

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